GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:613
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007
FOREST COVER IN THE COUNTRY
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) The State-wise average forest-cover in terms of percentage and the origin of the important rivers in the country;

(b) Whether the environment development of these areas is connected with Comprehensive National Environment Development programme;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) The State-wise number of sanctioned projects of the forest development agencies on the national level and the number of projects pending for approval; and

(e) The time by which the project is likely to be approved?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) The state wise forest cover in terms of percentage as per the State of Forest Report 2003, published by the Forest Survey of India is as under:

State/UT	Geographic Area (GA)	% of forest cover
Andhra Pradesh	275,069	16.15
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	81.22
Assam	78,438	35.48
Bihar	94,163	5.90
Chhattisgarh	135,191	41.42
Delhi	1,483	11.46
Goa	3,702	58.24
Gujarat	196,022	7.63
Haryana	44,212	3.43
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	25.78
Jammu & Kashmir	222,236	9.57
Jharkhand	79,714	28.50
Karnataka	191,791	19.00
Kerala	38,863	40.08
Madhya Pradesh	308,245	24.79
Maharashtra	307,713	15.23
Manipur	22,327	77.12
Meghalaya	22,429	75.08
Mizoram	21,081	87.42
Nagaland	16,579	82.09
Orissa	155,707	31.06
Punjab	50,362	3.14
Rajasthan	342,239	4.62
Sikkim	7,096	45.97
Tamilnadu	130,058	17.41
Tripura	10,486	77.18
Uttar Pradesh	240,928	5.86
Uttaranchal	53,483	45.74
West Bengal	88,752	13.91
Andaman & Nicobar	8,249	84.42
Chandigarh	114	13.16
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	45.82
Daman & Diu	112	7.14
Lakshdweep	32	71.88
Pondicherry	480	8.33

Total 3,287,263 20.64

The origin of the important rivers in the country are given below:-

Indus - Kailash range in Tibet
Jhelum - South Eastern parts of Kashmir in Verinag
Chenab - Bara Lacha Pass in Lahul
Ravi - Rotang Pass in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh
Beas - In Tibet
Sutlej - Southern slopes of Kailash range near Manasarovar
Ganga - Gangotri glacier in Uttarakhand
Yamuna - Bundar Poonch glaciers in Uttarakhand
Brahmaputra - Manasarovar lake
Narmada - Amarkantak Hill in Madhya Pradesh
Tapi - Eastern Satpura Range in Madhya Pradesh
Godavari - Trimbakeshwar in Maharashtra
Krishna - Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra
Cauvery - Talakaveri (Western Ghats), Karnataka.
Mahanadi - Satpura range in Central India

(b) & (c) There is no such programme in the name of Comprehensive National Environment Development Programme.

(d) & (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. As on 31.03.2007, 729 FDA projects were approved out of 750 project proposals received from the States. The State-wise details of FDA project proposals approved under NAP as on 31.03.2007 are given in Annexure. The remaining proposals could not be considered for approval in view of non-availability of funds as well as their suitability as per guidelines of the Scheme